Former High Cuban Aide Who Broke With Castro Shot to Death in San Juan

SAN JUAN, P. R., Oct. 26 (AP)—Aldo Vera Serafin, a Cuban exile who was once a top police official of the Government of Prime Minister Fidel Castro but later split with him, was shot to death last night as he walked along a street in a San Juan suburb, the police reported today.

Mr. Vera, 43 years old, was hit by two shots fired from an automobile and died immediately, the police said. A companion, Jose Rodriguez Gomez, another prominent exile, was reported wounded.

The police said they were just beginning to investigate the shooting and could not speculate about political motives. There have been several recent cases of slayings or terrorism involving Cubans in Miami.

Exile sources here said that Mr. Vera was involved in an organization called the Fourth Republic. The group was said to have connections with Orlando Bosch, now detained in Venezuela in an investigation of the crash Oct. 6 of a Cuban airliner off Barbados that killed 73 persons.

In 1958, Mr. Vera joined Mr. Castro's 26th of July Movement in the fight against the dictatorship of Fulgencio Batista. He was active in sabotage work in Havana.

When Mr. Castro assumed power in January 1959, Mr. Vera was named head of the technical investigations department, the main intelligence organ of the Cuban police. But as Mr. Castro began taking a socialist path, Mr. Vera broke with him and fled Cuba early in the 1960's.

He joined Puerto Rico's 20,000-member Cuban community a number of years ago and opened an auto sales business. It failed, however, and he dedicated himself to the fight against Prime Minister Castro.